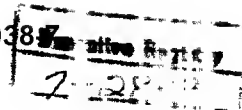


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Approved For Release 2003/07/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001000050038-7

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3 August 1955

Hon. Edmund F. Mansure
Administrator
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mansure:

In Title IV of Public Law No. 161, 84th Congress, and the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1956, which awaits the President's signature, the Congress has authorized the Director of Central Intelligence to provide for a headquarters installation for the Central Intelligence Agency and has appropriated \$5,500,000 to this Agency for the preparation of detail plans and specifications and for other purposes.

Our representatives have been working together on this project for several months and I appreciate the personal interest which you have shown in expediting it as much as possible. I am now in a position to select an architect which you and General Bragdon urged me so strongly to do when you called on me some weeks ago and which I discussed with you briefly today by telephone.

I reviewed the list of architectural firms to which the Public Buildings Service mailed questionnaires and my representatives have examined the responses of some 57 of these firms which have been returned to date. Of these, it appears that Harrison & Abramovitz is at this time in a particularly good position to undertake this work and I am personally very much aware of their outstanding reputation. I have personally known Mr. Wallace Harrison for many years and believe that he, as well as his partner, are particularly qualified to deal with certain of the specialized problems involved in a building for C.I.A. Subject to negotiation of a satisfactory contract, I should like to select this firm to perform the architectural and engineering services for this construction.

ER

I trust that this selection will be agreeable to you as I desire to proceed immediately with the necessary preliminary negotiations.

Sincerely yours,

ILLEGIB

~~SECRET~~
Allen W. Dulles
Director



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1 cc--D/Logistics
1 cc--C&RE/Logistics
1 cc--General Counsel



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2 August

*Quarantine to deal
with current of the
situation in the
United States
in C. I. A.*

*and which I discussed
with you briefly to day
telephone*

Mr. Edmund F. Mansure
Administrator
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mansure:

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Our representatives have been working together on this project for several months and I appreciate the personal interest which you have shown in expediting it as much as possible. I am now in a position to select an architect which you and General Bragdon urged me so strongly to do when you called on me some weeks ago.

I reviewed the list of architectural firms to which the Public Buildings Service mailed questionnaires and my representatives have examined the responses of some 57 of these firms which have been returned to date. Of these, ~~three firms appear to be clearly qualified and capable of undertaking a project of this magnitude at this time. They are: Harrison & Abramovitz, Saarinen, Cunningham & Associates, and Graham, Anderson, Probst & White.~~ It appears that Harrison & Abramovitz is at this time in a particularly good position to undertake this work and I am personally very much aware of their outstanding reputation. Subject to negotiation of a satisfactory contract, I should like to select this firm to perform the architectural and engineering services for this construction.

*...one particularly
worthy candidate...*

*and I have personally known
Mr. Harrison for many years*

True Nat

~~I would greatly appreciate your concurrence in this selection and would hope that we could proceed immediately with the necessary negotiations.~~

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

*will
would be agreeable to
you as I desire to*

254-411
18 August 1955

The Honorable Peter A. Strobel
Commissioner of Public Buildings
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Strobel:

I have just received the copies of your letters of 12 August 1955 to Mr. Moscowitz and Mr. Harrison which I requested after you read them to me on the telephone this morning. While I was aware that you had considered the firm of defoung, Moscowitz, and Rosenberg as a possible affiliate to Harrison & Abramovitz on the architectural-engineering contract for the Central Intelligence Agency's building, there is no foundation whatsoever for your statement in your letter to Mr. Moscowitz that his firm had been selected by the Central Intelligence Agency.

At the various meetings on 9 August between the Director of Central Intelligence, the Administrator of General Services, Mr. Harrison, and others, including yourself, it was made quite clear that the question of affiliation and the candidates therefor would be considered but that no decision would be made without further study and discussion with Mr. Harrison. Therefore, any commitment or even discussion of affiliation with any other firm is premature.

It is essential that the precise situation be made quite clear to Mr. Moscowitz in writing at the earliest opportunity. This implies no criticism whatsoever of the firm of defoung, Moscowitz, and Rosenberg, but would apply equally to any other firm that might have been put in this same position. The magnitude and complexity of this construction project require the most careful consideration by all concerned in the initial steps.

As you know, we hope to work out a mutually satisfactory arrangement with the General Services Administration for carrying out this project, but unless and until our respective roles are clearly

delimited and agreed upon, I must request that all actions of any nature whatever by the General Services Administration with regard to this project be concurred in fully and in writing by the Central Intelligence Agency in advance.

Sincerely,

/s/
L. K. White
Deputy Director

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE

Washington 25, D. C.

August 12, 1955

Mr. Benjamin Mosevitz
offering, Mosevitz and Rosenberg
205 E. 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

Re: A-E Contract
CIA Headquarters Building

Dear Mr. Mosevitz:

This is to confirm information given to you by telephone today that it is our intention to negotiate an architectural-engineering contract for plans and specifications for the new headquarters for CIA to be built in Washington, D. C.

A combination of architects consisting of Harrison and Abramowitz and F. E. King as one party and offering, Mosevitz and Rosenberg as the second party has been selected by GSA and CIA. The two enclosures are self-explanatory in regard to final authority on final decisions on plans and designs to be submitted.

We hope this agreement can be executed as soon as possible, as we are anxious to proceed with the negotiations for the A-E contract.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ P. A. Strobel

Commissioner of Public Buildings

Enclosures - 2

CC: Col. L. K. White
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2400 E Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

COFI**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION****PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE**

Washington 25, D. C.

August 12, 1955

Mr. Wallace K. Harrison
Harrison and Abramovitz
45 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y.

Re: A-E Contract
CIA Headquarters Building

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I am enclosing a copy of agreement to be entered into between Harrison and Abramovitz and F. R. King as one party and Gensert, Maschwitz and Rosenburg as another party as to understanding of authority of final decisions as to plans and designs to be submitted.

I suggest you execute three copies of this understanding and send them to me for concurrence by both GSA and CIA. We should like to retain an executed copy in our file, and copy should also be available for CIA.

Mr. Dallas, Director of GSA, has requested this agreement to be executed prior to any negotiations for an A-E contract for the CIA Headquarters Building.

I have read this agreement to Mr. Maschwitz by telephone and he indicated his acceptance.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ P. A. Strobel

Commissioner of Public Buildings

Enclosure

CC: Col. L. K. White
Deputy Director

COPY

August 18, 1955

In asking the architects Harrison & Abramovitz and F. H. King to act as architects, with any other architects who might be associated with them, for the new Headquarters for the CIP, Mr. Dulles suggested, and Mr. Nease agreed, that Mr. Harrison, with Mr. Dulles' approval, have the final decision as to which plans or designs would be submitted.

In Mr. Harrison's absence this responsibility will be assumed on his behalf by Mr. Abramovitz or Mr. King.

The above agreement acceptable to FDS of CAA as written.

/s/ P. A. Strobel

Commissioner of Public Buildings

Date: AUG 18 1955

COPY

ER -

All other copies, except
SCI file copy, ret'd by
hand to DDT5, for
hand delivery,

Ch